

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-20 (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) A method for reacquiring an interface connection between a network and an access terminal, the method comprising the steps of:

~~(a)~~-maintaining data indicating whether current data transmittal is a first occurring data transmittal after the interface connection was reacquired;

~~(b)~~ transmitting a configuration request message from a session configuration protocol process to a network peer of said session configuration protocol process on the network if said data indicates that said current data transmittal is said first occurring data transmittal; and

~~(c)~~-preventing the access terminal from waiting on the network by allowing said access terminal to receive a configuration response message from said network peer of said session configuration protocol process on the network.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein ~~step (a)-~~ maintaining data comprises setting a boolean flag to true if said current data transmittal is said first occurring data transmittal after the interface connection was reacquired.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein ~~step (c)-~~ preventing comprises maintaining a timer to track a time between transmitting said configuration command and receiving said completed configuration indication.

24. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein upon expiration of a specified time, the access terminal returns to an inactive state.

25. (Currently Amended) A method for configuring, ~~coordinating, and implementing~~ a plurality of protocol processes ~~elements~~ within an access terminal to allow the protocol processes ~~elements~~ to act in a cohesive manner to correctly emulate an expected communication interface with a corresponding group of network protocols processes in a network protocol stack, comprising the steps of:

(a) transmitting a command to a protocol process within the access terminal to thereby direct the access terminal to change from an open state to an access terminal initiated state; and

(b) exiting said access terminal initiated state upon receiving notice from all protocols processes within the access terminal.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently Amended) An access terminal, in which configuration and coordination of a plurality of protocols processes occurs to allow said protocols processes to act in a cohesive manner to correctly emulate an expected communication interface with a corresponding group of network protocols processes in a network protocol stack, comprising:

means for causing the ~~computer~~ access terminal to detect a need to change an existing condition in the access terminal;

means for addressing said need by sending a configuration command from a session configuration protocol process located within the access terminal, said configuration command being sent to an answering protocol process ~~containing~~ comprising an attribute ~~directly responsible for perfecting~~ for controlling said change, said answering protocol process being located within the access terminal; and means for determining if said answering protocol process accepts or rejects said change.

28. (Currently Amended) The access terminal of claim 27, further comprising:

means for sending a failed protocol negotiation indication from said answering protocol process to said session configuration protocol process of the access terminal.

29. (Currently Amended) The access terminal of claim 28, further comprising:

means for sending a configuration complete indication from said answering protocol process to said session configuration protocol process of the access terminal.

30. (New) A method performed within an access terminal communicating in a communication network, the method comprising:

reading at least one session configuration variable from non-volatile memory if a session configuration protocol process determines configuration data in the non-volatile memory should be used based on a status of a current session;

assigning a default value to the at least one session configuration variable if the session configuration protocol process determines no configuration variables are stored in non-volatile memory; and

sending a configuration command from the session configuration protocol process to an answering protocol process, the configuration command comprising an attribute for controlling a need to change an existing status of the answering protocol process.

31. (New) A method in accordance with claim 30, further comprising:

transmitting an acceptance from the answering protocol process to the session configuration protocol process if the answering protocol process accepts the configuration command; and

terminating further processing if the answering protocol process rejects the command.

32. (New) A method in accordance with claim 31, further comprising:

sending a configuration complete indication from the answering protocol process to the session configuration protocol if the answering protocol process accepts the configuration command.

33. (New) A method in accordance with claim 32, further comprising:

sending a message to the network in response to receiving a configuration complete indication from all protocol processes in the access terminal that accepted the configuration command.

34. (New) A method in accordance with claim 32, wherein the transmitting the acceptance comprises:

sending a value of true from the answering protocol process to the session configuration protocol process in response to the acceptance of the configuration command.

35. (New) A method in accordance with claim 32, wherein terminating comprises:

sending a value of false from the answering protocol process to the session configuration protocol process in response to rejection of the configuration command.

36. (New) A method in accordance with claim 32, further comprising:

sending a failed protocol negotiation indication from the answering protocol process to the session configuration protocol process upon expiration of a specified time period if the answering protocol process accepted the configuration command.

37. (New) A method in accordance with claim 32, further comprising:

if the answering protocol process accepted the configuration command, sending a failed protocol negotiation indication from the answering protocol process to a session management protocol process in response to a determination that an attribute identified in a response message does not match an attribute identified in a request message.

38. (New) A method in accordance with claim 32, further comprising:

if the answering protocol process accepted the configuration command, sending identification data corresponding to an offending attribute from the answering protocol process to a session management protocol process.

39. (New) A method in accordance with claim 32, further comprising:

 sending a configuration request message from the session configuration protocol process to the network before sending the configuration command.

40. (New) A method in accordance with claim 32, further comprising:

 if said answering protocol process accepted the configuration command, sending a failed protocol negotiation indication after a specified number of session configuration attempts by the answering protocol process.

41. (New) A method in accordance with claim 32, further comprising:

 sending a configuration request message from the answering protocol process in the access terminal to a corresponding peer in the network; and

 receiving a configuration response message at the answering protocol process in response to the configuration request message transmitted from the answering protocol process.

42. (New) A method in accordance with claim 41, further comprising:

 limiting a time period between the receiving and the sending.

43. (New) A method in accordance with claim 32, further comprising:

 exiting an access terminal initiation stage.

44. (New) A method in accordance with claim 32, further comprising the step of:

 repeating the sending and receiving.

45. (New) An apparatus configured for use in an access terminal for communicating within a wireless communication network, the apparatus comprising:

a session configuration protocol (SCP) process for communicating with a peer network SCP process in accordance with a session configuration protocol governing a maintenance of protocol parameters; and

a plurality of answering protocol processes, each answering protocol process configured to send a reconfiguration request indication to the SCP process indicating a requirement for reconfiguration of the answering protocol process, the SCP process configured to send a configuration command to the plurality of answering protocol processes in response to receiving at least one reconfiguration request indication.

46. An apparatus in accordance with claim 45, wherein each of the plurality of answering protocol processes is further configured to send an acceptance indication if configuration is required and send a rejection indication if configuration is not required.

47. An apparatus in accordance with claim 46, wherein each of the plurality of answering protocol processes is further configured to send a configuration request message to a peer network protocol process if configuration is required.

48. An apparatus in accordance with claim 47, wherein each of the plurality of answering protocol processes is further configured to receive, from the peer network protocol

process, a configuration response message comprising an identification of a configured variable of the answering protocol process.

49. An apparatus in accordance with claim 45, wherein the SCP process is further configured to transmit a configuration request message to the peer network SCP process if configuration of the SCP process is required.

50. An apparatus in accordance with claim 49, wherein the SCP process is further configured to receive a configuration response message from the peer network SCP process.

51. An apparatus in accordance with claim 50, wherein the SCP process is configured to transmit the configuration command to the plurality of answering protocol processes after determining that configuration of the SCP process is not required.

52. An apparatus in accordance with claim 51, wherein the SCP process is further configured to send a configuration complete message to the peer network SCP process if the SCP process receives a configuration complete indication from the answering protocol process.

53. An apparatus in accordance with claim 52, wherein the SCP process is further configured to receive a configuration complete response message from the peer network SCP process.

54. An apparatus in accordance with claim 51, wherein the SCP process is further configured to close a current configuration session if a failed protocol negotiation indication is received from any of the plurality of answering protocol processes.